

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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EIGHTY - THIRD LEGISLATURE

House Document

No. 461

H. P. 751 House of Representatives, Mar. 25, 1927.

Reported by Mr. Crockett from Committee on Education and
laid on table to be printed under joint rules.

CLYDE R. CHAPMAN, Clerk.

Presented by Mr. Crockett of Hollis.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD ONE THOUSAND NINE
HUNDRED AND TWENTY-SEVEN

AN ACT Relating to Requiring Children between Certain Ages
to Attend School Unless Excused or Excluded by the Com-
mittee.

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine, as follows:

Section sixty-six of chapter five of the public laws of nine-
2 teen hundred twenty-one is hereby amended by striking out
3 after the words "completed the" in line six the word "sixth"
4 and inserting in its place the word 'eighth' and by adding
5 at the close of the section the following: 'provided, further,
6 that a child between the ages of fourteen and sixteen who,
7 because of sub-normal mental capacity, is unable to success-
8 fully pass the tests necessary to allow a regular work permit
9 to be issued, may under conditions deemed proper receive

10 a work permit issued jointly by the commissioner of edu-
11 cation and the commissioner of labor, such persons to be
12 employed in non-hazardous occupations,' so that section
13 sixty-six shall read as follows:

 'Every child between the seventh and fifteenth anniversaries
2 of his birth and every child between the fifteenth and seven-
3 tenth anniversaries who cannot read at sight and write
4 legibly simple sentences in the English language and every
5 child between the fifteenth and sixteenth anniversaries who
6 has not completed the eighth grade of the elementary school,
7 shall attend some public day school during the time such
8 school is in session, and an absence therefrom of one-half
9 day or more shall be deemed a violation of this requirement;
10 provided, that necessary absence may be excused by the
11 superintending school committee or superintendent of
12 schools or teachers acting by the direction of either; pro-
13 vided, also, that such attendance shall not be required if the
14 child obtained equivalent instruction, for a like period of
15 time, in a private school in which the course of study and
16 methods of instruction have been approved by the state
17 superintendent of public schools, or in any other manner
18 arranged for by the superintending school committee with
19 the approval of the state superintendent of public schools;
20 provided, further, that children shall not be credited with
21 attendance at a private school until a certificate showing
22 their names, residence and attendance at such school signed
23 by the person or persons having such school in charge, shall

24 be filed with the school officials of the town in which said
25 children reside; and provided, further, that the superintending
26 school committee may exclude from the public schools any
27 child whose physical or mental condition makes it inexpedient
28 for him to attend. All persons having children under their
29 control shall cause them to attend school as provided in this
30 section, and for every neglect of such duty shall be punished
31 by a fine not exceeding twenty-five dollars or shall be im-
32 prisoned not exceeding thirty days; provided, further, that
33 a child between the ages of fourteen and sixteen who, be-
34 cause of sub-normal mental capacity, is unable to success-
35 fully pass the tests necessary to allow a regular work permit
36 to be issued, may under conditions deemed proper receive a
37 work permit issued jointly by the commissioner of education
38 and the commissioner of labor, such persons to be employed
39 in non-hazardous occupations.'